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COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Hydrogenation Plants Planned by PKM for
Russian Orbit Countries

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1. Sometime ago plans which were being drawn up by the Planning, Designing, and Assembly Office (Projektions-, Konstruktions- und Montagebuero) (PKM), Main Department Berlin, for hydrogenation plants in Poland and in Berente, Hungary, were greatly reduced. As of March 1954 PKM still had a few designs to be finished for the installation planned for Poland (Blechhammer). A short time ago all this work was stopped because the entire project was being put aside for the time being. The installation cannot be constructed at present because of lack of funds. The cost of construction amounts to about \$500,000,000, and Poland is not in a position to raise this much money. In addition, numerous and important parts have to be imported from the West, and this has caused considerable difficulties. For the same reasons work on the installation planned for Hungary has also been postponed. It is not known to what extent the methanol synthesis project in Poland and Hungary will be carried out.
2. The installation planned for China will also not be carried out at present. Lack of money is allegedly the reason for the postponement of the work. The Chinese project would cost about the same amount of money as the Polish one. As in the case of the Polish and Hungarian projects, important parts would have to be obtained from the West in order to construct the installation in China.

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